

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electronic data transmission and reception system has n apparatus, a transmitting apparatus, and a receiving apparatus which are connected to a network. The transmitting apparatus transmits first electronic data to a first apparatus. The receiving apparatus receives (n+1)th electronic data from a nth apparatus. A jth (j is an integer satisfying $1 \leq j \leq n$) apparatus generates (j+1)th electronic data which comprise jth electronic data with a signature assigned thereto for identifying the jth apparatus, and transmits the (j+1) electronic data to a (j+1)th apparatus. When j is n , an (n+1)th apparatus corresponds to the receiving apparatus. The electronic data transmission and reception system guarantees the first electronic data transmitted by the transmitting apparatus until the first electronic data are received by the receiving apparatus, because of signatures that are generated until the (j+1) electronic data are generated.

20